

COURSES OFFERED

All courses required for graduation will be scheduled at all schools. Of all the other courses listed on this and the following pages, only those meeting minimum guidelines will actually be scheduled. All courses designated with a “-P” or “-HP” meet the UC/CSU A-G requirement.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) COURSES

AUDIO PRODUCTION I - Grades 10,11,12

This class is a survey of the technology used to create, prepare, perform and distribute music. Topics include recording systems, MIDI and sound synthesis, live performance systems, methods of music production and mastering, and digital distribution of music through Internet downloading and streaming. Students will create projects in Garageband and Logic Pro. These include MIDI sequences, drum loops, podcasts/radio shows, songwriting and live recordings.

JOURNALISM I - Grades 10, 11, 12

This elective course produces and publishes the school newspaper. Students learn news, sports, feature, and opinion writing, study news ethics and First Amendment rights, develop interviewing skills, and practice photography and design.

JOURNALISM II – P - Grades 10, 11, 12

This CTE class teaches journalism writing of news, sports, feature, and opinion writing. Students study news ethics and First Amendment rights, develop interviewing skills, and practice photography and design. Journalism I must be taken prior to enrolling in Journalism II/III, which focuses on editor leadership, business skills, and advanced writing and design.

JOURNALISM III – P – Grades 11, 12

This elective class focuses on editorial leadership, business skills, and advanced writing and design. Journalism III-P can be repeated for credit.

COMPUTER STUDIES

Note: All of the courses in Computer Studies meet the Career Technical Education (CTE) graduation requirement

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

The course is designed to provide a survey of common business, personal, and professional uses of computers. Content includes computer software (word processing, spreadsheets,

and presentations), cloud computing, netiquette, basic hardware, basic HTML, and advanced searches on the Internet. There are no prerequisites for this class.

COMPUTER ANIMATION - Grades 10, 11, 12

Focusing on 3-D animation, students learn the entire process practiced in the professional field today—from concept art, to animation, to rendering. Animation students will produce several short animations utilizing the same software major motion picture studios use, Maya 2011.

VIDEO PRODUCTION II - Grades 10, 11, 12

Video Production is a high school course structured to provide students with experiences in media criticism, media construction and project development. A central objective of the course is to have the students develop themselves through the art and technique of video production. The skills learned in this class will include, but are not limited to: video and film concept creation, video and audio editing, photographic and video graphic shooting techniques, media analysis, and broadcast production. By producing short film projects, students will learn how to use video production equipment to express their creativity and demonstrate their acquired skills.

TV COMMUNICATION AND PRODUCTION - Grades 11, 12

Building on the foundation established in Video Production, this class will develop students' skills further in the Final Cut Editing Suite and explore advanced practical aspects of TV Studio production. The focus will remain on more complicated concepts and theories while utilizing school related projects to showcase these new understandings. Students will master editing and film production techniques through assignments that benefit the school. Students will be responsible for generating an online Weekly Report, and all content for the marquee, as well as finishing other long term projects, both school related and class specific. Through these projects students will explore, learn and master such concepts as: editing and film theory, color correction, DVD authoring, compression, visual and sound design, special effects, compositing and studio production.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COMPUTER SCIENCE-HP - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in AS Algebra II or higher

A full-year college-level course designed to prepare students for the AP Computer Science national examination. The expectation is that students entering the course will take the AP exam in the spring. The course uses the Java programming language, since the multiple choice and free response questions will use java syntax. Content includes: classes and data abstraction, conditional and logical expressions, recursion, various types of arrays, String class, exception handling, inheritance, sorting algorithms, and searches. Also, there is a lengthy case study. Students will learn how to look at programming code written by someone else and in so doing, learn how to interpret what the code is attempting to accomplish, and also how to modify the code in order to perform tasks not in the original code.

HOME ECONOMICS CAREERS AND TECHNOLOGY **(Known as Family & Consumer Sciences at the college level.)**

NOTE: All courses in Home Economics meet the Career Technical Education (CTE) graduation requirement

NEW Food Science, Food Service, and Hospitality Pathway

Announcing a new interest pathway at Menlo-Atherton! Students who are interested in college majors and careers related to culinary arts, food science, dietetics, nutrition, the business of food service and hospitality, tourism, and recreation will benefit from participating in this program. Students who complete at least one of the courses are eligible for college credit, certification, and letters of recommendation for jobs.

- Sequence of Courses: Design in Life - Food and Nutrition - Food Service & Hospitality.
- Students can continue their education in Family and Consumer Sciences, Hospitality Management, or Food Science programs at several California institutions, including: Mission Community College in Santa Clara, City College of San Francisco, USF, SFSU, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly Pomona, Fresno State, Sacramento State, CSU Bakersfield, Point Loma and several other state and private colleges.

DESIGN IN LIFE - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

A one-year course. Lecture and lab

Learn to use design thinking to take charge of your life! In this course, you will learn effective personal management practices and you will acquire a variety of skills to prepare yourself for successful independent living. This is a project-based course where you design solutions to everyday problems and practice professional presentation skills to explain your work. Units of Study: Quarter 1 – Food and Nutrition, Career Ready Practice; Quarter 2 – Identity, Friendships and Family, Child Development and Responsibilities of Parenthood (Baby Think It Over), Career Ready Practice; Quarter 3 – Fashion and Interior Design, Basic Sewing, Career Ready Practice; Quarter 4 - Personal Management, Money Management and Financial Literacy, Consumer Education, Career Ready Practice.

FOOD AND NUTRITION – Grades 10, 11, 12

Note: This course is a UC/CSU a-g approved elective* (*Pending approval spring 2015)

Suggested Prerequisite (not required): Design in Life A one-year course. Lecture and lab.

*****Students earn a California Food Handler Card which is required to work in food service.**

*****Students earn a Food and Nutrition Competency Certificate**

Students learn the fundamentals of nutrition, food handling, and food preparation by completing foods labs in fully equipped kitchen units. The goal of this course is to teach

students how to maintain their own health and well-being. Emphasis on food safety and sanitation, teamwork, resource development, consumer education, food and culture, and a sustainable food supply. Units include: Food Safety and Sanitation, Measurement, Recipes, Food Preparation Techniques and Terminology, Meal Planning, Table Display, Consumer Education, Food and Culture, Food Science (nutrition and basic food chemistry), and Career Ready Practice.

FOOD SERVICE AND HOSPITALITY (ADVANCED FOOD STUDY) – Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Design in Life OR Food and Nutrition OR teacher or Guidance Advisor approval based on advanced food and nutrition knowledge and skills

A one-year course. Lecture and lab.

***Students earn a California Food Handler Card which is required to work in food service.

***Students earn a Food Service and Hospitality Competency Certificate

Prepare for careers or higher education in food science, dietetics, nutrition, business/hospitality management, tourism, recreation, or food service. This course is designed for the student who wants to improve his/her culinary knowledge and skills as well as the student who is serious about a career in the Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation industry sector. Units include: Food Safety and Sanitation, Culinary Fundamentals, Ingredients, Food Preparation and Presentation, Table Service, Culinary History, Nutrition, Managing Resources, Sustainable Food Supply, Menus, Career Ready Practice, and Introduction to Careers in Food Science, Food Service, and Hospitality Management and Related Industries.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Note: All of the courses in Industrial Arts meet the Career Technical Education (CTE) graduation requirement.

WOOD I - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Exploratory experiences in Machine Tool Woodworking focusing on the development of the ability to work safely and effectively with machinery, tools and materials. Required and individual projects.

WOOD II - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Wood I

Instruction in working with wood; experiences with materials, tools, and processes; emphasis on planning, design, measurements, finishing, and safety; opportunities to make furniture or cabinets.

WOOD III - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Wood II

Instruction in complex finishing and fabrication procedures as they pertain to cabinet making and furniture manufacture; individualized projects.

DRAFTING I - Grades 10, 11, 12

Exploratory experiences in Common Mechanical drawing techniques: Sketching, instrument drawing and computer drafting of two-dimensional layouts, orthographic projections, sections, auxiliary projections, dimensioning, geometric solutions, lettering techniques, residential floor plans and others; recommended for students interested in engineering and architecture.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN I – Grades 10, 11, 12

Recommended prerequisite: completion of Drafting 1

Recommended Co- requisites: Geometry

Architectural Design I is a yearlong course that introduces students to architectural design and prepares them for continuing education and careers in the field of architecture. The topics include: An exploration of the architecture profession and architectural history, graphic communications skills and design concepts related to architecture, and simple structural mechanics. The course satisfies the CTE requirement for graduation.

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY I-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Recommended Prerequisite: Completion of Wood I or Drafting I

Recommended Co-requisite: Geometry or higher

Engineering Technology I is a yearlong course designed to introduce students to the field of engineering and prepare them for continuing education programs in the fields of engineering. The topics include: a survey of the major branches of engineering, an overview of manufacturing processes, materials and communications as they apply to engineering, and the development of an understanding of the engineering design process to solve engineering problems. This course meets the UC “g” college-prep elective requirement.

COMPUTER ACADEMY COURSES

Students must be enrolled in the Computer Academy Program in order to take any Academy class. The Computer Academy is a three year program that starts in 10th grade.

Note: ¥ means the course meets the Career Technical Education (CTE) graduation requirement

¥

ACADEMY COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I - Grade 10

A full year introduction to a broad range of computing technologies, so students can excel in a digital world. Hands-on experience with word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications, as well as an introduction to computer hardware, advanced web searching, basic

web design using HTML, online collaboration, netiquette, and internet safety will be covered. No pre-requisites are required.

ACADEMY MULTIMEDIA-P - Grade 11

Multimedia I is a fast paced course focused on integrating text, graphics, animation, sound, and/or video to market a small business. The course will be broken into four focus areas in which students will:

- Learn to create animations using both custom and imported graphics as well as text. They will learn how to incorporate symbols and instances into Flash projects and add interactivity and sound elements to their animations.
- Learn to communicate using web technologies. Create and maintain a blog which covers topics discussed in class as well as topics of your choice..
- Cover the planning, creating, editing, publishing and site management techniques of web design. Students will develop innovative, professional and dynamic websites using various web design tools.
- Be introduced to image development and editing software including Fireworks, Photoshop, and more.

¥

ACADEMY COMPUTER ANIMATION I - Grade 12

Academy Computer Animation I is a project based course which follows the 3-D animation pipeline model. Students will work with the industry standard software Autodesk Maya, and cover such topics as: polygonal and hard surface modeling, character animation, special effects, lighting, rigging, UV mapping, concept art, and a myriad of other steps. Aside from the technical skills developed, students will cover animation and artistic topics like the 12 Principles, the additive color models, anatomy, etc. By the time the course is done, students will have a familiarity in the 3-Dimensional Animation process in the film and gaming industry with a capstone project and demo reel..

ACADEMY BIOLOGY-P - Grades 10, 11

Prerequisite: None

This concept oriented, lab based biology course offers students a wide range of opportunities to get excited about the study of life. The scientific method will be taught and used to design experiments and explore various topics of biology including anatomy, cells, genetics, biotechnology, evolution and ecology. Upon completion of this course, students will understand how to ask questions about the natural world and execute experiments to answer those questions. Biological concepts are made relevant in this course through discussion based inquiry about controversial topics like cloning, genetically modified organisms, antibiotic product use, eating industrial farmed meat, etc. Students will have the opportunity to use technology and scientific tools to learn about biology. Students will also learn how to write a lab report and APA format for background research.

ACADEMY ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS THROUGH CHEMISTRY-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I.

Students will continue to use the scientific method as they study chemistry and how it relates to their lives. Prevalent environmental issues such as pollution of the watershed and society's energy demands and their consequences will be used as a vehicle to learning the fundamentals of chemistry. As with the prerequisite biology course, critical thinking and analytical skills will be reinforced.

ACADEMY MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY-P - Grade 10

This is a year-long course that covers the following topics: Ancient Greece and Rome, The Renaissance, Age of Exploration, Reformation and the Enlightenment, World Revolutions, Industrialism and Imperialism, the World Wars, and Current Events. The focus of this course is on Modern World History.

ACADEMY U.S. HISTORY-P - Grade 11

This is a year-long course that examines the major turning points in American History by first reviewing the Revolutionary Era through the Late 1800s, and then emphasizing the twentieth century. Among the topics covered will be the Progressive Era, the Jazz Age, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and the United States' involvement in the New World Order. Students will be required to complete a research paper during the second semester.

ACADEMY ECONOMICS-P - Grade 12

This is a one-semester course of study that is designed to allow students to master fundamental economic concepts, the basic economic principles of micro and macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economic systems

ACADEMY AMERICAN GOVERNMENT-P - Grade 12

A one-semester course that studies the problems of politics, the legislative process, political parties, voting, state and federal constitutions, the Bill of Rights, court and justices systems, and state and local governments; and related matters, such as foreign policy, mass media, public opinion and citizen responsibilities.

ACADEMY ENGLISH II-P - Grade 10

Course parallels English II. This one-year college prep course enables students to demonstrate competency in the 10th grade state and district standards of: vocabulary development, reading comprehension, literary analysis, critical thinking, understanding and demonstrating various modes of writing, knowledge of grammar, listening and speaking skills, and the ability to work cooperatively in groups. Students complete portfolio projects

throughout the year. Preparation for the California High School Exit exam, career awareness and career-enhancing skills are also emphasized in this year.

ACADEMY ENGLISH III-P - Grade 11

Course parallels English III. This one-year college prep course enables students to demonstrate competency in the 11th grade state and district standards of: vocabulary development, reading comprehension (with an emphasis on informational materials and media literacy in the junior year), literary analysis, critical thinking, understanding and demonstrating various modes of writing, knowledge of grammar, listening and speaking skills, and the ability to work cooperatively in groups. Students complete portfolio projects throughout the year. Career awareness and career-enhancing skills also emphasized.

ENGLISH

The Sequoia Union High School District English course of study is based on the California English–Language Arts Standards and Framework. The standards are composed of objectives for each grade level in the areas of language, critical thinking, speaking, writing, listening and reading, all based on the study of significant literature from various cultures and eras. Our English department is committed to teach to the standards. Students must pass four years of English to graduate; all courses are two semesters in duration.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) ENGLISH I-P - Grade 9

AS classes are for students who have high intellectual potential, a consistently strong work ethic and enjoy the in-depth study of language and literature. The objectives of this standards-based course include the study of written communication, vocabulary, and the development of literary and rhetorical analysis. The curriculum covers the skills necessary to succeed not only in college, but also on the 11th and 12th grade AP exams. Study consists of intensive work in composition established in classical literature, vocabulary development and grammar review.

ENGLISH I-P - Grade 9

English I is a standards-based course of study for students who are reading and writing at grade-level as determined by a variety of measures. The objectives of this course include the study of written communication and vocabulary and the development of literary and rhetorical analysis. The English I curriculum focuses on creative and expository writing, the development of public speaking skills, and a foundation in grammar.

ENGLISH I SUPPORT - Grade 9

This course is designed for 9th grade students who are enrolled in English I-P and are reading at or above the 6th grade level but not yet at grade level. The course uses Scholastic's English 3D curriculum, a language development program designed to ensure proficiency in the

academic vocabulary, speaking, listening, and writing vital to success in school and life. The course also directly supports students in their English I classes.

Note: Students in this course earn five units of elective credit per semester.

ENGLISH I INTENSIVE AND ENGLISH I INTENSIVE SUPPORT - Grade 9

This double period of English is designed for 9th grade students who are reading below the 6th grade level. The course exposes students to some grade-level texts and uses Scholastic's Read 180 curriculum, which focuses on reading comprehension skills, fluency, vocabulary, and writing.

Notes:

-Students in this course earn five units of English credit toward graduation and five units of elective credit per semester.

-English I Intensive does not meet the UC/CSU "b" (English) requirement.

INTERVENTION ELA AND INTERVENTION ELA SUPPORT - Grades 9, 10

This double period of Reading Intervention is designed for 9th and 10th grade students who are reading below the 4th grade level and who score Pre-Decoder, Beginning Decoder, or Developing Decoder on the Scholastic Phonics Inventory, administered in the spring of the 8th grade year and the summer before the 9th grade year or at the start of the 9th grade year. The course uses Scholastic's System 44 curriculum, which focuses on phonics, decoding, sight words, and fluency.

Note: Students in these courses earn **DO NOT** earn English credits, but do earn ten elective credits per semester.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) ENGLISH II-P - Grade 10

AS English II is designed for students who are performing above grade level. The objectives of this standards-based course include the continued study of written communication with an emphasis on logical organization and effective sentence structure; vocabulary, grammar; and the development and deepening of literary and rhetorical analysis. The curriculum covers the skills necessary to succeed not only in college, but also on the 11th and 12th grade AP exams. Study consists of intensive work in composition established in classical literature, vocabulary development and grammar review.

ENGLISH II-P - Grade 10

English II is a standards-based course of study for students who are reading and writing at grade-level as determined by a variety of measures. The objectives of this course include the continuation of the study of written communication, continued emphasis on logical organization and effective sentence structure, vocabulary building, and the development and deepening of literary analysis.

ENGLISH II SUPPORT - Grade 10

This course is designed for 10th grade students who are enrolled in English II-P and are reading at or above the 7th grade level but not yet at grade level. The course uses Scholastic's English 3D curriculum, a language development program designed to ensure proficiency in the academic vocabulary, speaking, listening, and writing vital to success in school and life. The course also directly supports students in their English II classes.

Note: Students in this course earn five units of elective credit per semester.

ENGLISH II INTENSIVE AND ENGLISH II INTENSIVE SUPPORT - Grade 10

This double period of English is designed for 10th grade students who are reading below the 7th grade level. The course exposes students to some grade-level text and uses Scholastic's Read 180 curriculum, which focuses on reading comprehension skills, fluency, vocabulary, and writing. Note: Students in this course earn five units of English credit toward graduation and five units of elective credit per semester.

Notes:

-Students in this course earn five units of English credit toward graduation and five units of elective credit per semester.

-English II Intensive does not meet the UC/CSU "b" (English) requirement.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION-HP - Grade 11

Advanced Placement Language & Composition is designed for juniors who are performing above grade level. AP classes are for juniors and seniors who have high intellectual potential, a consistently strong work ethic and enjoy the in-depth study of language and literature. This is a college level course.

This course is organized under the guidelines established by the College Board. Students will read widely in many genres of literature, write frequent impromptu essays, as well as a critical term paper utilizing outside sources. Students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) ENGLISH III-HP - Grade 11

AS English III is an honors-level course designed for students who are interested in further developing their skills at analyzing poetry, drama and fiction, as well as advancing their writing skills to the college level. The course offers a survey of American Literature and is based on the 11th grade Common Core English-Language Arts Standards. Students will read college-level texts, focusing on poetry, drama, and fiction. Literary analysis, especially the understanding of the relationship between an author's techniques and theme will be the primary focus of the course. Students will also read non-fiction texts, analyzing how authors craft rhetorical arguments. Most of the writing will be expository rather than creative. In addition to reading challenging literature and to developing sophisticated writing skills, students will also study vocabulary and advanced grammatical techniques.

ENGLISH III-P - Grade 11

This is a standards-based course of study designed for students who are reading and writing at grade-level. The objectives of this course include the continuation of the study of written

communication; organization of sentence, paragraph, and composition patterns; vocabulary building; and the study of various text types. In addition to the study of fiction and non-fiction, students will study the California State University's English Reading and Writing Curriculum, which helps students develop and hone the skills of critical analysis necessary for their first years of college. Study of this curriculum continues in the English IV course.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LITERATURE & COMPOSITION-HP – Grade 12

AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course is designed to cover the equivalent of English IA and IB, or freshman reading and composition, as taught at most colleges and universities. Students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

ENGLISH IV-CREATIVE WRITING-P – Grade 12

This course offers a safe and supportive environment to develop various tools of the craft of writing in the effort to discover our unique voices and styles. We explore many genres of writing, focusing on creative non-fiction, the short story and poetry. We read and analyze the novels, essays and short stories of contemporary authors, accumulating strategies and technical tools to be applied to our own work. Through daily writing practices and weekly writing exercises, we strengthen our skills, as we work toward the completion of a final short story and the building of a portfolio (a solid body of creative work). All writing is done at home, shared in class, and revised multiple times.

ENGLISH IV-LITERATURE & WRITING-P – Grade 12

English IV is a standards-based course of study designed for students who are reading and writing at grade level. The objectives of this course include the continuation of the study of written communication with an emphasis on composition writing; vocabulary building; and the study of various text types. This course prepares students for life after high school. In addition to study fiction and non-fiction, students will study the California State University's English Reading and Writing Curriculum, which helps students develop and hone the skills of critical analysis necessary for their first years of college.

NINETEENTH CENTURY RUSSIAN LITERATURE - Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

Prerequisite: None

"Life is in ourselves and not in the external." –Fyodor Dostoevsky

Dostoevsky wrote these profound words in a letter to his brother in December, 1849, after undergoing the traumatic experience that Tsar Nicholas I ordered for several prisoners condemned to death for supporting the expression of free thought within the Russian state- a mock execution in Semyonovsky Square, a staged performance so terrifyingly real that it

induced insanity within one of Dostoevsky's fellow prisoners. Dostoevsky lived a difficult life of bleak poverty; he watched helplessly as many of his closest friends died from ailments of the poor. And yet unlike his characters such as Raskolnikov who surrendered to despair and weakness under the burden of misfortune, characters who faltered and committed barbaric and tragic acts, Dostoevsky himself maintained strength of character and an unending sense of human dignity. His works simply cannot be understood when divorced from this significant social, political and economic context and these reflections paved the way for a new class to be offered at Menlo-Atherton.

Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with Nineteenth Century Russian History.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (CAHSEE) ENGLISH PREPARATION – Grades 10, 11,12 (Elective)

Suggested Prerequisite: Students will be eligible for this course if they have not passed the CAHSEE English section.

The goal of this course is to help students pass the English portion of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Passing the CAHSEE is essential toward earning a high school diploma beginning with the Class of 2006. This semester course will be worth 5 credits.

English Learners (EL) Program

The program for English Learners (EL) is designed to ensure that students receive systematic instruction in English to reach full academic proficiency in English as rapidly as possible. English Learners are also provided a full spectrum of courses that meet graduation requirements and prepare them for post-secondary educational opportunities. English Learners (EL) entering the Sequoia Union High School District from elementary schools are registered through the regular process.

All English Learners are placed in an appropriate English course based on their previous scores on the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) and the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests (GMRT).

In addition, students scoring at the CELDT levels of Beginning, Early Intermediate, and Intermediate levels are placed in an English Language Arts and an English Language Development (ELD) course appropriate for their level (ELA/ELD I, II, or III). Students earn 10 English credits for the yearlong ELA class, and 10 elective credits for the yearlong ELD class. English Learners at Early Advanced and Advanced levels on CELDT are placed in a general English course based on their GMRT results.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS I/English Language Development I

This level is for beginning English Learners as determined by CELDT. The course follows the state and district ELA and ELD standards for beginning English Learners. It prepares the

English Learner student to follow simple oral directions, to understand common everyday vocabulary, to develop English literacy and to write complete sentences and paragraphs following familiar formats with minimal errors. Does not meet the UC'b' (English) requirement

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS II/English Language Development II

This level is for early intermediate English Learners as determined by CELDT. The course follows the state and district ELA and ELD standards for early intermediate English Learners. The course prepares the EL student to demonstrate basic conversational skills in a variety of settings, to deliver short oral reports, to read and understand both fictional and expository text, to engage in an analysis of literature, and to write short essays and stories including a narrative (story) and an evaluative composition. Does not meet the UC'b' (English) requirement.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS III-P/English Language Development III

This level is for intermediate English Learners as determined by CELDT. The course follows the state and district ELA and ELD standards for intermediate English Learners. Students read narrative and non-fiction level-appropriate materials. They use knowledge of word parts and word relationships to read fluently. They identify and analyze figurative language in text including idioms. Students write short persuasive essays in which they take a position on an issue and justify it with evidence.

MAINSTREAM ENGLISH COURSES

The curriculum of each course follows the California standards for that course so that students meet all grade-level expectations. A variety of scaffolds are in place to make the content more accessible to the students such as direct interactive instruction in some cases co-teaching. These courses do meet the A-G college requirements.

FINE ARTS

Note to Parents and Middle School Guidance Advisors

The Visual Arts Department highly recommends that students begin courses in the fall – all courses are year long, second semester content builds on first semester skills and knowledge. They also recommend that students who have had a year or more of beginning level art courses, at the middle school level, or a similar experience, be enrolled into an Intermediate level art course.

Beginning Visual Art Courses

No prerequisites unless otherwise noted by course

CERAMICS I-P – Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: None, although it is highly recommended that students begin the course in the fall – the course builds on skills and experience established in the first semester and developed throughout the year.

An introductory art course based on the fundamentals of ceramic design and construction. Sculptural and functional pieces are created using hand-building and some wheel-thrown techniques, and are inspired through cultural and artistic traditions. Projects such as decorative tiles, coil pots and masks are expressed using; glazes, underglazes and decorative painting styles. Classes explore the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design as established by the California Visual Arts Framework. Students suited to this class are those who prefer a concentration in 3-dimensional creativity with clay.

DRAWING / PAINTING I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Rigor: 2, minimal homework (less than 30 minutes per week)

If you don't know how to draw – I can teach you!

In this class, students are introduced to a variety of media and methods of artistic expression. The *Elements of Art* and the *Principles of Design* are the focus of the class, as established by the *California Visual Arts Framework*.

Emphasis is placed on 2-dimensional art making through a wide variety of drawing, and painting techniques, while developing the students' technical and creative skills. Art media used includes, but is not limited to, drawing pencils, chalk and oil pastels, pen and ink, charcoal, acrylic paints, and watercolor paints. Areas of emphasis are perspective, landscape, still life, portrait and figure, and expressive drawing. Projects throughout the year incorporate art history and cultural art awareness, as well as self-expression.

This class is intended for students who have **little or no** previous art education. Students should have good hand-eye control and be interested in 2-dimensional art, such as realism, self-expression, anime, and graffiti style/street art. *(If you have had art in middle school, or in any other formal situation, this class is not the class for you - sign up for Drawing / Painting II.)*

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY I-P– Grades 10, 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: None (see note to parents and guidance advisors above)

Students receive an introduction to digital photography and digital camera operations, covering lighting, composition, exposure and the fundamentals of traditional photographic concepts as well as the elements and principles of design. Weekly creative and technical assignments are given to support topics covered in class. Photographing flat art, three-dimensional objects and optimizing photos for a digital workflow will be discussed. The creative freedom of digital photography will be a strong component to this course. Course work includes digital imaging, Photoshop, studio lighting, and portfolio preparation. Students will complete publication-ready photo essays using InDesign. Students will be encouraged to develop personal, expressive style in addition to achieving technical excellence.

Intermediate Visual Art Courses

Prerequisites include beginning art courses or experiences or middle school art teacher recommendation.
(See note to parents and middle school guidance advisors at beginning of Fine Art section.)

CERAMICS II-P - Grades 10, 11,12

Suggested Prerequisites: Ceramics I or Department Approval

This course focuses on the potter's wheel in combination with hand building techniques. The cylinder and the bowl will be explored as the basis for more elaborate forms. Personal expression will be encouraged through surface decoration, glazing and firing options. Emphasis will be placed on producing unique and well built ceramic art based on clay skills learned in a beginning art course.

DRAWING/PAINTING II-P - Grades 10, 11, 12 (recommended)

Suggested Prerequisite: Drawing/Painting I or Teacher Recommendation.

Drawing/Painting II is an intermediate level class that builds upon the students' previous art education, such as Drawing/Painting I. Advanced application of the *Elements of Art* and *Principles of Design* are applied to drawing, painting and printmaking. The further development of **creative and technical skills** are the focus of the class, while creating an understanding of, and use of, various **art styles** and **theories of art**. Areas of emphasis are portrait and figure, landscape, and abstract/non-objective art. Art media includes pencils, chalk and oil pastels, charcoal, ink, watercolors, acrylic paint, and printmaking supplies. Projects are intended to extend and develop students' personal styles. Students suited to this class are those who enjoyed a beginning level art class and wish to further expand the limits of their own creative process. Students will be challenged individually and creatively, and must be motivated.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY II – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Photography I

An extension of Digital Photography I, this course introduces applied digital photography skills ranging from RAW capture and workflow to advanced lighting techniques and studio set-up. Students will complete an independent project for each semester and will develop a portfolio. Digital Photo II students will also contribute to the media portals on campus and they will qualify to be in-house photographers for our student publications. These sections run concurrently with Journalism and Yearbook.

Advanced Visual Art Courses

Prerequisite requirements include beginning and intermediate Art courses or experiences, or Art teacher recommendation. Some courses require pre-course assignments and/or preparation.

3D DESIGN II - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisites: A two-year sequence in Ceramics and Art Department approval.

3D Design II offers students who have been through our beginning and intermediate level Ceramics courses a chance to grow as an artist and further explore ceramic techniques. This course encourages and expects creative and systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues in 3D Design.

Students will be expected to solve creative problems using their knowledge of elements and principles of design in the 3-D Design course. Students will use a range of conceptual approaches as well as show technical competency in a variety of mediums and familiarity of traditional and contemporary approaches to art. Class assignments will challenge students to set and achieve creative goals.

ART STUDIO I - Grades 11, 12 (recommended)

Prerequisite: Any two-year sequence in art (such as, but not limited to, Drawing/Painting I & II) **AND** Art Department approval.

Rigor: 4#, expect a minimum of 30 minutes of homework 4 days a week

Advanced offering for students beyond a second-year art course. Advanced individual projects in 2-dimensional and/or 3-dimensional artwork.

Art Studio I will focus on the development of advanced skills and techniques using individual choice of media and subject matter. Problems and projects are structured to extend and challenge the individual student's specific interests and abilities in art. Students will design and develop their own projects around assigned problems, as well as their own interests in art. Art media available are higher quality and more professional grade materials and tools, and include pencils, charcoal, chalk and oil pastels, inks, watercolor, acrylic paints, printing materials, assorted paper, papier-mâché, plaster, clay (hand-building) and assorted materials.

Students suited to this class are those who are highly self-motivated, creative, and like to challenge themselves to make quality art.

ART STUDIO II - Grade 12

Prerequisite: Art Studio I **AND** Art Department approval.

Rigor: 4#, expect a minimum of 30 minutes of homework 4 days a week

Continuation of Art Studio I. An advanced course for fourth-year art students who do not wish to take AP Art Studio, but want to further refine their understanding of and abilities in the various art-making techniques, styles, and media usage.

Students suited to this class are those who are highly self-motivated, creative, and like to challenge themselves to make quality art.

AP ART STUDIO - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: A two-year sequence in art **and** Art Department approval.

Rigor: 5#, expect a minimum of 60 minutes of homework 5 days a week

Summer Assignment due at the beginning day of class in the fall. *(The Student is responsible for getting this assignment from the teacher before the end of the previous school year to be turned in at the beginning of the enrolled school year.)*

AP Art Studio is a college preparatory course for highly motivated advanced art students who are interested in developing their individual artistic styles and in developing a portfolio, which may be submitted to the College Board's AP Program for possible college credit.

Development of advanced art skills and techniques. Students will use individual choice of media and subject matter, which are centered around the student's specific interests and needs. Students will design and develop their own projects around assigned problems, as well as their own interests in art. Art media available include acrylic and watercolor paints, linoleum and etch printing materials, chalk and oil pastels, charcoal and pencil, assorted sculptural materials, papier-mâché, plaster and clay.

Students suited for this course are those who plan on pursuing art in college and a possible career in the visual arts. They **MUST** be highly motivated with a genuine desire and ability to make quality art.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ART HISTORY-HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

The Advanced Placement History of Art course is designed to introduce students to an understanding of the purpose and meaning of art and architecture in our daily lives. The class begins with the ancient world and continues for the year with lectures, slides and reading covering the history of art into the twentieth century. Students who enjoy history, literature and/or art are encouraged to enroll. A high degree of commitment to academic work is required as the course moves at challenging pace, requiring students to absorb and synthesize complex relationships between art, artists and society. A substantial amount of reading will be required, as well as frequent writing assignments pertaining to the analysis of art and its historical context.

Beginning Performing Art Courses

BAND I - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite:None

Study of the elementary principles of playing a specific band instrument; objective is to learn how to play well enough to enter a more advanced instrumental group; no instrumental background necessary for enrollment. This class is for beginners or musicians wishing to learn a second instrument.

JAZZ BAND I - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Instructor permission and/or audition. May be repeated for credit.

Introductory study of standard and currently popular jazz music; elementary study of the structure and arrangement of jazz band music.

GUITAR I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Instruction in basic guitar technique and styles, music theory and analysis, participation in individual and group assessments. All levels of students may enroll. Designed to meet individual needs.

CHORAL I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Understanding of music through the study of voice, music fundamentals, good choral literature, and choir citizenship; possible growth to advanced vocal programs; performance opportunities included in the instruction of the group. Participation in Winter, Spring and Graduation concerts. Good citizenship is required.

DRAMA I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Course covers improvisation, pantomime, voice and diction, scene studies, theatre history, as well as basic technical and theatrical vocabulary. There will be special emphasis on characterization, physicality, staging/blocking, dramatic criticism and reactions to theatrical pieces in Western and non-Western forms of theatre. Students are required to see at least one live theatrical production per semester.

STAGECRAFT-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on the creation of the technical aspects of theatrical production (scenery/set, lighting, sound, and costume), including advanced techniques of design execution. Emphasis is placed upon textual analysis for design, graphic techniques for the communication of design concepts, and communication among members of the production team. Students are expected to participate in the design and execution of departmental productions during the semester, requiring some additional time outside of class. No prior experience in drama or design is required.

Intermediate or Advanced Performing Arts Courses

ADVANCED BAND-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Department or previous teacher's recommendation. Two years playing experience recommended. May be repeated for credit.

Performing group study of standard and current band literature; participation in musical activities of school and community.

JAZZ BAND II – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Instructor permission and/or audition

Work on intermediate improvisation technique; study of the structure and arrangement of jazz band music

JAZZ BAND III-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: By Audition Only

Work on advanced improvisation technique; advanced study of the structure and arrangement of jazz band music. The group frequently performs for school/community events, as well as attending festivals.

ORCHESTRA-P- Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: 2 years playing experience or instructor permission; may be repeated for credit.

Orchestra studies and performs repertoire from the Baroque period up through modern day music literature. The group does perform at school, in the community and occasionally on trips or at festivals. Technical skills development and high level musicianship are studied. Wind players are welcome but must audition.

GUITAR II - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Adequate progress in Guitar I or by audition.

Continued instruction in technique, repertoire, collaboration, theory, analysis, improvisation and Digital Audio Recording. Emphasis on performance.

CHORAL II - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition or approval of teacher

Advanced Choir is designed for intermediate or advanced singers. This class is open to students who have successfully sung in Choir I or have auditioned. Continued exploration of vocal technique, music theory, and sight singing. Participation in choral festivals and competitions as well as Winter, Spring, and Graduation concerts. Good citizenship is required.

DRAMA II-III-P- Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Drama II: Completion of Drama I with a C or better or department approval.

Prerequisite: Drama III: Completion of Drama II with a C or better or department approval.

The course focuses on the refinement of acting skills through solo and group work in performance theory exercises and scene work, improvisation, dialect scenes, stage combat, audition skills, puppetry, and playwriting. Students will learn about professional theatre company operating positions and responsibilities; may rehearse and perform one-act plays for middle-school audiences. There is some emphasis on directing.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA READINESS/Algebra Topics - Grade 9

Algebra Readiness/Algebra Topics is the first year of a two-year sequence designed for students who require academic intervention based on test scores. The course will start with a foundation in the fundamentals of mathematics and progresses to the first part of a grade-level algebra 1 class second semester. Students receive elective credit for Algebra Readiness/Algebra Topics, but the course does not count as math credit for graduation.

ALGEBRA I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11

This course covers elementary algebra topics such as order of operations, rational number operations, solving linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, functions, graphing of linear and quadratic functions, systems of linear equations, and radical expressions.

ALGEBRA SUPPORT - Grades 9, 10

Algebra Support supplements the regular Algebra 1 class for students who need extra support to be successful. Students receive extra guided practice for the concepts being taught concurrently in algebra, with a basic skills review. *(Students receive elective credit for Algebra Support, but the course does not count as math credit for graduation.)*

INTEGRATED MATH-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Passing Algebra I with a D- or better

This course focuses on strengthening Algebra I skills while introducing students to many important geometry topics. It also helps prepare students for the CAHSEE exam and works to change negative attitudes that students may have about their abilities in math in order to encourage them to stay on a college-prep math sequence.

GEOMETRY-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

This is a college-prep course that addresses the California State Standards for Geometry. Successfully completing this course ensures students are prepared for math topics that will be taught in subsequent math courses.

Topics covered include inductive and deductive reasoning, angles, polygons, congruent triangles, constructions, circles, right triangles, similarity, solids, logic, and introductory trigonometry.

ENRICHED GEOMETRY- P – Grade 9, 10

Prerequisite: B+ or higher in Algebra 1 or teacher recommendation

Designed for the upper-level college bound student, this is a rigorous class that goes into more depth and breadth than the regular Geometry course. With an emphasis on deductive reasoning, this course studies all topics covered in regular geometry as well as enrichment topics. Students are required to understand and explain the logic behind their problem solving strategies.

ALGEBRA II-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Geometry or Geometry Enriched with a grade of C or higher.

Algebra 2 is a college-prep course required for admission to almost all four-year colleges. Students review and expand upon concepts learned in Algebra I. The topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions, systems of equations, conic sections, sequences, series, polynomials, rational expressions, the complex number system, and probability. Real-world applications of each topic are explored throughout the course.

ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY-P – Grade 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II

This course is an acceleration of Algebra II and a bridge to Pre-Calculus. The topics covered include those covered in Algebra II plus trigonometry unit including the Laws of Sines and Cosines, graphing trigonometric functions, solving trigonometric equations, and verifying trigonometric identities.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) ALGEBRA II-P - Grades 9, 10, 11

Prerequisites: Geometry Enriched with a “B” or higher **recommended**

AS Algebra II is a challenging college-prep class. Students develop skills as well as an understanding of the applications of linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic equations, determinants, systems of equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, conic sections, series and probability. An emphasis on mathematical modeling.

PRE-CALCULUS-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of AS Algebra II or Algebra II/Trig with a “B” or higher recommended.

Pre-Calculus is a challenging elective course whose purpose is to prepare students to take AP Calculus. It includes trigonometry, including circular trig, right triangle trig, angular velocity and real world modeling with sinusoidal functions. Other content includes logarithms, function theory, rational functions, polar functions, conic sections, probability and statistics.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CALCULUS AB-HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus AB focuses on differential calculus, which examines rates of change and slope, and integral calculus, which investigates the accumulation of data and area under curves. Other topics include distance, velocity and acceleration, volume of solids and integration of exponential and logarithmic functions. Students are prepared for the AP Calculus AB Exam taken in May.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CALCULUS BC-HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus and summer program OR complete of AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC focuses on differential calculus, which examines rates of change and slope, and integral calculus, which investigates the accumulation of data and area under curves. Students are prepared for the AP Calculus BC Exam taken in May. Topics offered in BC Calculus that are not in AB Calculus include: Integration by Parts, Series and Sequences, l'Hospital's Rule, and Parametric and Polar Relations.

MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS – P - Grade 12

Prerequisite: BC Calculus

The course extends all of the concepts taught in first-year single variable calculus in one variable such as vectors, derivatives, limits, and integrals to two or more variables. Topics include parametric equations and polar, spherical, and cylindrical coordinates (calculus based), vectors and the geometry of space, vector functions, the calculus of functions of several variables, multiple integrals, vector calculus, and second order differential equations and their applications.

STATISTICS-P - Grade 12

Prerequisites: "C" or higher in Algebra II or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II.

The purpose of Statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Course work will include exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Hands-on activities will be emphasized.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) STATISTICS-HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisites: C or higher in Pre-Calculus or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus

This course is based on the College Board Advanced Placement Statistics course. The students study four broad conceptual themes: 1. Exploring data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns 2. Planning a study: Deciding what and how to measure 3. Anticipating patterns: Producing models using probability and simulation 4. Statistical inference: Confirming models. Students will prepare to take the Advanced Placement examination in statistics.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (CAHSEE) MATHEMATICS - Grades 10, 11,12

Prerequisite: Students needing preparation to pass the California High School Exit Exam.

CASHEE math prepares students to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). The state exam consists of 80 multiple choice questions that cover Number Sense, Statistics and Probability, Geometry and Measurement, Algebra, Algebra and Functions, and Mathematical Reasoning. Students must pass the CAHSEE to graduate. Students receive one semester of math credit and receive elective credits for semesters thereafter.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Two years (20 credits) of Physical Education is required for graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce and develop student fitness and skills in the following individual and dual activities (golf, tennis, weight training, track and field, pickleball, tumbling and badminton), team sports (softball, hockey, frisbee, lacrosse, basketball, football, volleyball, and soccer) aquatics (swimming), dance (square dance), and combatives (self defense). Students will develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance, cardio-respiratory endurance, and proficiency in appropriate sport skills. They will understand history, rules, and strategies of sports, and many aspects for developing a positive self-image and healthy lifestyle.

(The two-year requirement (20 units) may not be reduced by any combination of PHYSICAL EDUCATION and ATHLETICS or by taking or participating in more than one physical education class or sport in any grading period unless required for P.E. makeup).

- Grade 9 (Required): = P.E. 1: Instructional units
- Grade 10, 11, 12 (Recommended): = P.E. 2: Instructional units
- = P.E. 2: Conditioning
- Grade 11, 12 = P.E.: Weight Training (Prerequisite-Must have 15 credits of P.E. before enrolling in the class)
- Athletics = Interscholastic Competitive Sports Program (May be used to meet the PE graduation requirement)

Note: All students MUST pass the state mandated Physical Fitness Test (PFT), given in the spring of freshman year. Students who do not pass the PFT will be required to take a Physical Education course the following year, whether or not they are also participating in the Athletics Program.

See Credit for Athletics Academic Eligibility Requirements below.

Activities change every three to four weeks

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2 CONDITIONING – Grades 10, 11, 12

This class is designed to offer an alternative means for students to earn credits needed to fulfill the second year of P.E. The class focuses on the health related components of fitness through functional training so students can work to improve their fitness as individuals. The class will also spend some time participating in tumbling, self defense, team sports, and water aerobics.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – WEIGHT TRAINING – Grades 11, 12

Develop basic weight training knowledge. Including biomechanical principles, safety & spotting techniques, plyometric exercises, development of fitness goals, measure improvement in muscular strength & endurance & develop individual or small group weight training programs.

ATHLETICS

All students who participate in interscholastic athletics will receive 3.5 elective credit for each sport/season played. A total of 3 sports/seasons played during 10th-12th grade can be used to satisfy the second year (10 credits) of the PE graduation requirement.

The following sports are available to students:

FALL SPORTS:

Girls

Volleyball
Tennis
Golf
Cross Country
Water Polo

Boys

Football
Cross Country
Water Polo

WINTER SPORTS:

Basketball
Soccer
Wrestling

Basketball
Soccer
Wrestling

SPRING SPORTS:

Badminton
Softball
Swimming
Track
Lacrosse

Baseball
Badminton
Tennis
Swimming
Golf
Track
Lacrosse

Athletic Requirements:

§ Must be prepared to commit to at least two-hours of daily practices after school throughout the season.

§ Must be cleared by a physician

§ Must be enrolled in at least five classes;

§ Must be passing a minimum of four 5-unit classes at the end of the previous grading period with a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better (meets California Interscholastic Federation requirements).

§ May substitute 3 sports/seasons to satisfy the 2nd year (10 credits) of the PE requirement (only during grades 10, 11, or 12.)

§ Credits earned count as elective credits.

§ See the Student Planner for more details on student eligibility

NON-ATTENDANCE OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR AT ANY TIME MAY RESULT IN A STUDENT BEING DEEMED INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM.

SCIENCE

All science courses are UC/CSU approved and meet the “laboratory science” (d) requirement, unless otherwise noted.

ADVANCED INTEGRATED SCIENCE (A.I.S.) – P – Grade 9

This course is a laboratory foundation course for freshmen. This comprehensive course integrates the science disciplines of biology, earth science, physics, and chemistry. Foundation skills that are necessary for success in later science courses are emphasized. This course is lab/activity based with an emphasis on problem solving and discovery that will guide students to become observers, thinkers and questioners. Placement in this course is primarily determined by reading level: at 7.5 or below (as measured during 8th grade).

BIOLOGY– P, BIOLOGY LEP–P – Grades 9, 10, 11,12

Biology is a one-year laboratory survey course that studies living organisms and their interrelationships. Studies include cell biology, the structure and function of organisms, ecology, changes over time, human body and health (including Sexual Health Education and a whole organism dissection), and developmental biology. A special four to six week laboratory intensive unit on molecular biology and biotechnology also emphasizes bio-ethical issues. Placement for 9th graders in this course is primarily determined by reading level between 7.6 - 8.4 (as measured during 8th grade) with concurrent enrollment in a single period of Algebra or above highly recommended.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY-P - Grades 9, 10

Advanced Biology is a one-year laboratory survey course that studies living organisms and their interrelationships. Studies include cell biology, the structure and function of organisms, ecology, changes over time, human body and health (including Sexual Health Education and a whole organism dissection), and developmental biology. A special four to six week laboratory intensive unit on molecular biology and biotechnology also emphasizes bio-ethical issues. Placement for 9th graders in this course is primarily determined by reading level of 8.5 or above (as measured during 8th grade) with concurrent enrollment in Geometry (or above) highly recommended.

HUMAN BIOLOGY-P- Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Two years of science including Environmental Science or Biology

This course is for students who are interested in learning in depth about how the body systems function beyond what they have previously learned in other life science courses. Systems studied will include the skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, nervous, endocrine, immune, digestive and reproductive systems. This course emphasizes hands-on laboratories including dissections, projects, and guest lectures.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) BIOLOGY–HP – Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: “B” or better in both Biology and Chemistry or Environmental Chemistry or department recommendation

This course is equivalent to introductory college Biology. Emphasis is on developing students’ ability to express and interrelate biological concepts. The College Board AP labs further develop analytical and critical thinking skills. Extensive laboratory activities, reviews, essays, and multiple choice-type examinations prepare students for the national AP Biology examination, which all students are expected to take. College credit may be given for successful completion of the national exam.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE–HP – Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: “B” or better in both Biology and Chemistry or Environmental Chemistry or department recommendation

This introductory college-level course surveys several pressing relevant environmental issues including human population growth, meeting the energy and food needs for society, resource management, pollution, and climate change. Students will use class time to engage in discussions, conduct labs, conduct field investigations, and work on group projects and assignments in order to apply their understanding of the content. Since the broad course outline is dictated by the College Board, the course will move quickly. As a result, the course is designed using a "Flipped Learning" Model. This means students will acquire basic content knowledge before class at home in order to maximize class time for applications and clarification of the content they studied. Students will be expected to read large amounts of text and put in 6-8 hours of work per week outside of class. It is highly likely this will be one of the most relevant courses they will ever take.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY- P – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra I with “C” or better & passing grade in Biology or department recommendation

Environmental Chemistry differs from the traditional chemistry class in the way it emphasizes human impact our natural environment. The course explores pollution and energy usage as well as methods to minimize and control their impact. The scientific method will be taught and used to design experiments and explore various chemistry topics. These will include the structure of matter, energy, chemical reactions and their laws, as well as chemistry’s effect on your life.

CHEMISTRY–P – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Algebra I with “C” or better & passing grade in Biology or department recommendation

This course follows a logical, sequential development of the basic principles of Chemistry through extensive laboratory-centered experiences that emphasize analysis and computational skills. There is a strong focus on the direct application of Chemistry and the world around us.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) CHEMISTRY-HP – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Biology with “B” or higher & concurrent enrollment in Algebra II or higher

A rigorous one-year college preparatory lab course designed to provide a strong Chemistry foundation in theory and mathematical applications. Focus will include experimental data analysis, problem solving, and the application of Chemistry in the world around us. This course is designed for students anticipating careers in science, engineering, and medicine.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CHEMISTRY-HP- Grades 11, 12

Prerequisites: AS Chemistry with “B” or higher & concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calc

This course is taught as a second year chemistry course due to the quantity and difficulty of the material. Topics that involve qualitative material will be quickly reviewed whereas those involving calculations will be studied in detail. Emphasis is given to problem solving and critical thinking regarding chemical systems. Extensive laboratory activities, reviews, and practice examinations prepare students for the national AP Chemistry examination which all students are expected to take. College credit may be given for successful completion of the national exam.

CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS (also known as Earth Science) – Grades 11, 12

This course will expand students' understanding of our universe and reveal the driving forces of our world. Through inquiry-based and hands on lab activities and projects, students will explore topics such as: Dynamic Motion, Momentum, Electricity, and Waves, allowing them to better understand things such as why break dancers can perform their stunning moves, why seat belts save lives, and why color exists.

NOTE: This course **does not meet the UC/CSU lab science requirement**. It does meet one year of the SUHSD science requirement.

PHYSICS–P – Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra with “B” or higher

This is a one-year survey course addressing the fundamental principles of physics including the study of time, space, matter, and energy. Specific topics include mechanics, waves, thermodynamics, and electromagnetic forces. The inquiry-based approach used in this course offers a hands-on laboratory experience.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) PHYSICS-HP- Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calc or higher

This is a one-year survey course addressing the fundamental principles of physics including the study of time, space, matter, and energy. Specific topics include mechanics, waves, and electromagnetic forces. A.S. Physics covers the same topics as Physics but with more mathematical depth. Emphasis is placed on reasoning from evidence and expressing that in written form. It is designed to meet the needs of students anticipating careers in science, engineering, and medicine.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PHYSICS - HP: C MECHANICS – Grades 11, 12

Prerequisites: AS Physics with “B” or higher & concurrent enrollment in AB Calc or higher

An introductory college course in mechanics. The Mechanics curriculum covers: kinematics, Newton's Laws, energy, momentum, rotational kinematics, angular momentum, gravitation, and oscillations. Entering students will have seen many of these concepts before but will now be applying calculus to them in the context of increasing overall complexity. College credit may be given for successful completion of the national exam.

ASTRONOMY – P - Grades 11, 12

This course will show students the vast immensity of the Universe and leave them inspired and in awe of the majesty and emptiness of space. In this course we undertake a journey starting at the near observable astronomy we can see and end at the edges of time and space. During this journey we will learn about some of the more bizarre but essential evolutionary processes in the life of a star and how the abundance of life on Earth is nothing short of a miracle. We will investigate through inquiry-based labs. Many of these will include an observational component. Using night observations on campus and computer simulations, students will be able to identify many stellar objects such as constellations, comets, and meteor showers. After this class, the tiny points of light we see in the night sky will never be the same.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Sequoia Union High School District Social Studies course of study is based on the Common Core Standards. The standards are composed of objectives for each grade level. The standards focus on writing, reading and speaking. Students, therefore learn to analyze cultures and concepts of change, interpret historical information, use historical research, evidence and point of view, and examine cause and effect relationships, to study consequences of major historical events and aid in the development of critical thinking skills relating to the disciplines of the social sciences. Our Social Studies Department is committed to teaching such skills. Students must pass three and a half years of required Social Studies courses to graduate.

All courses are on the UC “a-g” list except where noted.

WORLD STUDIES 1-2-P / WORLD STUDIES 1-2 LEP- Grade 9 (Required)

World Studies is a three quarter survey course of the history, culture and contemporary affairs in various world regions. This course meets the California Social Science Framework ninth grade guidelines and includes: developing social science vocabulary, accessing information using maps and almanacs, improving research skills, and completing formal written assignments. The course requires textbook and supplemental reading.

MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY-P / MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY LEP-P- Grade 10

A two-semester survey course of the history, culture, and contemporary affairs of Europe and Eastern Europe from 1500 to post WWII, this course meets the California standards for tenth grade social science. This course reinforces and expands skills learned in the freshmen year.

WESTERN CIVILIZATION-P- Grade 10

An elective that can take the place of the Modern World History course. It meets the California standards for tenth grade social science. This course provides a more complete synthesis of the political, social, intellectual, economic, and aesthetic developments of western civilization, with a particular emphasis on modern Europe and emphasizes the development of critical reading and writing skills.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EUROPEAN HISTORY-HP - Grade 10

This course is intended for able and highly motivated students who wish to pursue college-level studies while in high school. Course content includes: basic chronology of major historical events and trends from Renaissance to present; principal themes in European history; analysis of historical evidence. This course prepares students to pass the national Advanced Placement European History examination.

U.S. HISTORY-P/U.S. HISTORY LEP - Grade 11

The objectives of this one-year course of study include the study of the development of American political, economic and social institutions from pre-colonialism to the present with an emphasis on the twentieth century. The course further prepares students to be competent as citizens in a democratic society through understanding of democratic tradition.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) U.S. HISTORY-HP - Grade 11

In-depth study of development of American political, economic and social institutions. The course includes selected interpretative study of ideas, issues, analytical materials and biographical information. It follows course content prescribed by College Entrance Examination Board to prepare students for the national Advanced Placement examination.

ECONOMICS-P / ECONOMICS LEP - Grade 12 (Required)

This is a one-semester course of study that is designed to allow students to master fundamental economic concepts, the basic economic principles of micro and macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economic systems

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT-P / AMERICAN GOVERNMENT LEP - Grade 12 (Required)

A one-semester course that studies the problems of politics, the legislative process, political parties, voting, state and federal constitutions, the Bill of Rights, court and justice systems, and state and local governments; and related matters, such as foreign policy, mass media, public opinion and citizen responsibilities.

GENDER STUDIES-P - Grade 12 (Elective)

This class offers an interdisciplinary study of men and women in society. Topics include history, media, psychology, body image, violence, race, sexual orientation, and sex discrimination. Students will discuss topics and analyze media examples of gender issues, culminating in a research project that the students will design. This course meets the UC/CSU "g" college prep elective requirement. Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with Psychology.

PSYCHOLOGY-P - Grade 12 (Elective)

The course is designed to enable students to better understand human behavior with an emphasis on discussion. Content includes: introduction to personality theory (including Freudian Theory); abnormal behavior; projective tests; sleep and dreams; intelligence; interpersonal relationships and, other topical issues. This course meets the UC/CSU "g" college prep elective requirement.

Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with Gender Studies.

THE COLD WAR -P - Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

A one semester course complementary to three existing departmental courses: United States History, Advanced Placement United States History, Advanced Placement European History. It is designed to satisfy a relatively widespread student interest in more current issues, particularly in reference to U.S. foreign policy. This course meets the UC/CSU "g" college prep elective requirement.

Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with Current World Issues.

CURRENT WORLD ISSUES - Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

A one semester course in Contemporary Issues is designed to complement the course in the Cold War, United States History, Advanced Placement United States History and Advanced Placement European History. It is organized to immerse students in a relative detailed study of three major, current trends in international news: genocide, terrorism and the course of U.S. foreign policy in the post-Cold War world. This course does NOT meet the UC/CSU "g" college prep elective requirement.

Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with The Cold War.

NINETEENTH CENTURY RUSSIAN HISTORY-P - Grades 11, 12 (Elective)

This course is complimentary to three existing departmental choices; World studies III, Western Civilization, and Advanced Placement European History. It is an elective, survey course designed to satisfy students' interest in Russian history during the 19th century particularly to the roots of Russian government, diplomacy and worldview to better understand the place of Russia in a dynamic international system. There are no prerequisites. It is specifically designed to interface with a course in Nineteenth Century Russian Literature. This course meets the UC/CSU "g" college prep elective requirement.

Note: Course must be taken as a yearlong course with Nineteenth Century Russian Literature.

WORLD LANGUAGES

FRENCH I-P OR SPANISH I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: None

Practical mastery of skills necessary for understanding, speaking, reading, and writing the language; appreciation of the culture and heritage of the countries in which the language is spoken.

FRENCH II-P OR SPANISH II-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: Completion of French I or Spanish I with a C or better or department recommendation.

Continuation of French I or Spanish I: intensified study in the four basic skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing; emphasis on vocabulary enrichment; introduction to literature; appreciation of the culture and heritage of the countries in which the language is spoken; class conducted mostly in the target language.

FRENCH III-P OR SPANISH III-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: Completion of French II or Spanish II with a C or better or department recommendation.

Continuation of French II or Spanish II: refinement of the four basic skills; development of composition skills; additional reading in the literature; appreciation of the culture and heritage of the countries in which the language is spoken; class conducted principally in the target

language. The course meets the fine art graduation requirement if it is the third year of the language taken in high school.

FRENCH IV-P OR SPANISH IV-P - Grades 10 11, 12

Suggested Prerequisite: Completion of French III or Spanish III with a C or better or department recommendation.

Classes conducted in French and Spanish: Continuation of French III or Spanish III; appreciation of the culture and heritage of the countries in which the language is spoken; class conducted in the target language; emphasis on literature and culture with vocabulary building, composition, and oral competency.

SPANISH I-NS-P (for the native speaker) - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Speak Spanish with an intermediate level of oral comprehension and basic reading comprehension and ability to produce a comprehensible writing sample of at least 100 words.

Beginning course designed for students who speak Spanish, but wish to develop their reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary skills. This course includes basic principles of composition, grammar, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, accents, and paragraph organization and further develops reading comprehension. Class conducted entirely in Spanish.

SPANISH II-NS-P (for the native speaker) - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Ability to understand simple directions and statements in Spanish.

Beginning course designed for students who speak Spanish, but wish to improve their reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary skills. This literature-based course includes basic principles of composition, grammar, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, accents, and paragraph organization. Class conducted in Spanish.

SPANISH III-NS-P (for the native speaker) - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Ability to understand and communicate verbally in Spanish **and** be able to write simple

basic sentences. Complete Spanish II - NS with a C or better **or** department recommendation.

Further instruction in reading, writing, speaking, and listening; vocabulary building; preparation in basic principles of composition and grammar, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, accents, and paragraph organization; study of Latin American and Spanish literature and culture, with selections from novels, myths, short stories, plays, and poetry; career research; dictionary and library skills. Class conducted in Spanish.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) SPANISH-NS-HP (for the native speaker) - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish III-NS with a C or better, or department recommendation.

Literature and composition; vocabulary building; grammar review and literary analysis. Follows College Entrance Board curriculum which prepares students for the national Advanced Placement Spanish Language Examination.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) SPANISH LANGUAGE-HP - Grade 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish IV with a C or better **or** teacher recommendation.

Class conducted in Spanish; emphasis on composition, oral proficiency, and vocabulary building; review of grammar. Follows College Entrance Examination Board curriculum which prepares students to take the national Advanced Placement Spanish Language Examination.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) SPANISH LITERATURE-HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of AP Spanish Language with a C or better **or** teacher recommendation.

The Advanced Placement Spanish Literature course is intended to be the equivalent of a third-year college Introduction to Literature in Spanish, covering selected works from the literatures of Spain and Spanish America. Students will be acquainted with works representative of different historical periods, different literary movements and genres, different geographic areas, female and male authors, and diverse population groups within the Spanish-speaking world. Emphasis in the course is on literary analysis through compositions, discussions, and classroom presentations.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE-HP – Grade 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of French IV with a C or better **or** teacher recommendation.

Class conducted in French; emphasis on composition, oral proficiency, and vocabulary building; review of grammar. Follows College Entrance Examination Board curriculum which prepares students to take the national Advanced Placement French Examination.

ADVANCED STANDING (AS) FRENCH LITERATURE - HP - Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of AP French Language with a C or better **or** teacher recommendation.

Class conducted in French; in depth study of Francophone 16th to 20th century authors; emphasis on literary analysis through compositions, discussions, and classroom presentations.

LATIN I-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Practical mastery of skills necessary for understanding, reading, and writing of Latin; improvement of communication skills through the study of English words derived from Latin; appreciation of the great contribution of ancient Rome to western civilization; understanding the contribution made by Latin to the modern romance languages.

LATIN II-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Latin I **or** department recommendation.

Continuation of Latin I; introduction to more complex grammatical constructions; study of Latin literature.

LATIN III-P - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Latin II **or department recommendation.**

Continuation of Latin II; study of the contribution of Roman culture through reading the literary efforts of Rome's greatest writers (Caesar, Catullus, Ovid, Horace).

LATIN IV-P - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Latin III **or department recommendation.**

Continuation of Latin III; study of most important aspects of Roman culture; introduction to the literature of Vergil, Ovid, Cicero, and other poets and historians.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LATIN-HP - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Latin IV **or teacher recommendation.**

Intensive study of Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's de Bello Gallico in preparation for AP exam.

OTHER NON-DEPARTMENTAL COURSES

AVID – Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Prerequisite: Complete application and get teacher recommendation; GPA between 2.0 - 3.5; Few/No behavior or attendance problems

AVID targets students in the academic middle - B, C, and even D students - who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential. Typically, they will be the first in their families to attend college, and many are from low-income or minority families, but there are many reasons college bound students may need the support offered by AVID. For one class period a day, they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Students enrolled in AVID are typically required to enroll in at least one of their school's toughest classes, such as honors or Advanced Placement®, in addition to the AVID elective at some point in their high school careers.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM PREPARATION (CEEP) - Grade 11

Prerequisites: "C" or higher in Algebra I and Geometry. Concurrent enrollment in a college-prep English course.

This course will help students improve both their SAT math and verbal scores and their SAT II writing and math exam scores. Students will also learn about admission requirements and scholarship opportunities for the UC system, CSU, and private colleges. The class will be offered during 0 period (spring semester only) to approximately 70 students. The students will

be divided into two groups and will alternate weekly between the English and math instructors. The course will be structured to prepare students for the SAT I in May.

LIFE COMMUNICATIONS – Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Using the 180 Degree Program, this course is designed to help youth enhance their lives by accepting personal accountability and to continuously strive toward the goal of achieving their full potential. There are five key elements that frame all successful journeys; these include: Character Education, Core Values, 21st Century Skills, Life Skills and Community Outreach.

LIFE SKILLS – Grade 9 (Required)

Life Skills is an introductory, quarter-long course that covers mental, emotional, social, personal, and community health, as well as substance abuse. It introduces high school to freshmen, including discussions of high school success skills and goal setting while addressing state- and district-approved Health Education Standards.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP – Grades 10, 11, 12

Make a difference at M-A!

The Menlo-Atherton leadership class is a diverse community dedicated to action. We work to ensure an educated, united, and positive school environment, with respect and opportunity for all. As leaders of Menlo-Atherton High School, our duty is to continuously improve and support our local and global communities. We challenge ourselves to enrich the soul of Menlo-Atherton through spirit, service, and support.

PURPOSE OF COURSE:

- To train student leaders in project management, event-planning, social awareness, and dedication to community service.
- To practice the knowledge learned, the abilities and skills developed, and the awareness gained through the planning and implementation of student activities/events.
- To perform the basic responsibilities of the elected ASB and class officers, appointed committee chairs, and student leaders.
- To promote unity and school spirit, and work with the student body and administration to improve the school culture.
- To develop new student-led projects, including dances, community service events, lunch-time activities, rallies, fundraisers, and student-run businesses like the student store. The emphasis for all events is that they are student-run and student-planned.
- To devote time to our local and global communities, especially in the form of M-A's giant Canned Food Drive, which consistently raises tens of thousands of pounds of food every year, and is almost entirely student-run.
- To represent the student body of Menlo-Atherton in positive way, both at school and in our community.

Being a leader isn't easy and we expect a serious commitment of time and energy. However, maybe more than any other class you will take in high school, it has the potential to change your world here and into the future.

Spirit Leadership

This class organizes class-specific activities for the freshmen, sophomore, junior and senior classes. The class organizes dances, spirit weeks, rallies, lunchtime activities, as well as the planning and implementation of class activities and participation in campus community service events such as the canned food drive and class-driven service projects. Spirit also carries the responsibility of organizing senior week at the end of the school year with the senior class advisor(s).

ASB Leadership

This class focuses on school issues, community service events, and projects beneficial to M-A as a whole. It is also dedicated to supporting and encouraging student voice and involvement, improving the culture at M-A, supporting all student clubs, and creating new and exciting service opportunities to benefit the community. Our areas of focus include the following (but are not limited to): club activities, culture and unity, community relations and service, communication, student connections and campus concerns. We also help run the Canned Food Drive, focusing especially on the areas of marketing and outreach to local businesses.

No matter which class a student chooses, Leadership is an amazing experience that helps students grow, learn about the world, and give back.

STUDENT CLERK - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

NOTE: 2.5 units of credit per semester (half the credits of regular courses).

Assistance in school offices or helping individual teachers, performing services such as record-keeping, filing, or duplicating.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Assistance to teachers as laboratory aids. Students are given instructional support by working directly with students; help to prepare laboratory and shop instructional material setups.

PEER TUTOR - Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Assistance to teachers as class tutors. Students provide support by tutoring students per teachers' direction.

YEARBOOK - Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None for first year, but it is *highly recommended* that students take Digital Photography I first; subsequent years require passage of previous course or department recommendation.

Students operate as a small business to plan, create, market, sell, and distribute the school yearbook. Working both independently and collaboratively, students gain practical experience in journalistic methods, digital photography, desktop publishing, business, and visual presentation skills.

